

CLAIMS:

1. A coupling for an air hose, the coupling comprising
a one-piece plug member, the plug member comprising a fitting at a first axial end, the fitting being adapted for connection to an air hose, an external circumferential groove, a beveled external shoulder forming a wall of the groove, an axial bore, the axial bore being closed at a second axial end of the plug member, and a plurality of air passages intersecting the axial bore near the closed end of the bore;

a two-piece coupler member, the coupler member receiving the plug member and releasably locking with the groove on the plug member; the coupler member comprising a ring seal trapped between the two pieces of the coupler member, and a valve member seatable on an axial side of the ring seal;

the plug member, when coupled with the coupler member, forming a seal with an interior of the ring seal, displacing the valve member, and putting the air passages in the plug member functionally on the same axial side of the ring seal as the valve member.

2. The coupling of claim 1 wherein the bore comprises a portion at the first axial end of the plug member having a larger diameter than a portion at the second axial end of the plug member.

3. The coupling of claim 1 wherein the air passages are configured to direct air exiting them from the bore at least partially in a direction back toward the first end of the plug.

4. The coupling of claim 1 wherein the closed end of the bore is conical, the conical end redirecting at least some air moving axially down the bore outwardly and rearwardly through the openings.

5. The coupling of claim 1 wherein the air passages have a larger cross-sectional area than the area of the bore at their intersection with the bore.

6. A coupling for an air hose comprising a coupler member and a one-piece plug member, the plug member comprising a fitting at one axial end, the fitting being adapted for connection to an air hose, an external circumferential groove, an external shoulder adjacent the groove, an axial bore, the axial bore being closed at a second axial end of the plug member, and a plurality of air passages intersecting the axial bore, the air passages collectively having a greater cross-sectional area than the cross-sectional area of the axial bore.

7. A coupling for an air hose comprising a coupler member and a one-piece plug member, the plug member comprising a fitting at a first axial end, the fitting being adapted for connection to an air hose, an external circumferential groove, an external shoulder adjacent the groove, an axial bore, the axial bore being closed at a second axial end of the plug member, and a plurality of air passages intersecting the axial bore, the closed end of the bore and the air passages directing air entering from the first axial end of the bore outwardly at least partially back toward the first axial end.

8. A coupling for an air hose comprising a coupler member and a one-piece plug member, the plug member being formed as a single piece, the plug member comprising a fitting at a first axial end, the fitting being adapted for connection to an air hose, an external circumferential groove, an external shoulder adjacent the groove, an axial bore, the axial bore being closed at a second axial end of the plug member, and a plurality of air passages intersecting the axial bore near the second end of the fitting, the axial bore having a diameter at the intersection of said air passages no greater than the smallest diameter of the axial bore.